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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION ON BOLIVIAN PRESIDENT-ELECT, JANUARY  
09, 2005

1. On 01/09 the Tegucigalpa-based moderate daily "El  
Heraldo" carried an op-ed by Ruben Dario Paz, Social  
Sciences Professor, titled "Evo Morales, the Andean." "If  
there is a country that has suffered greatly, it is Bolivia,  
a wealthy country with abundant resources, but with extreme  
poverty."

"In the middle of the coca dilemma a movement was born from  
which Evo Morales arose."

"Perhaps Evo Morales' greatest advantage will be in an  
international alliance, because some neighboring countries  
have tried to improve their economic programs by setting  
themselves directly and defiantly apart from the North.

"Cuba, Venezuela, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay and possibly  
Chile comprise a wide leftist alliance in Latin America,  
under which Evo Morales will surely obtain important results  
for his country."

"Let's hope that Evo responds to the many needs of his  
people."

2. "Heraldo" carried an op-ed by Julio Escoto entitled  
"Pendulum's Swing." "The U.S. government and powerful  
groups in the world must be concerned, if not terrorized: in  
Latin America the pendulum is swinging back, for the voters  
prefer governmental proposals oriented to reviving  
patriotism and developments of social character, instead of  
markets. Obviously, this is a consequence of neo-liberal  
failures, privatization doctrines and the rigid U.S.  
alliance structure."

"Evo Morales' triumph in Bolivia startled the U.S.  
According to international analysts there are only two  
possible scenarios following the rise of leftist governments  
that will govern Latin America in the first decade of this  
century."

"The first is confrontation, the model in which North and  
South are opposed. Second is a redesign of strategies by  
both parties, where there is respect and cooperation. But  
with the current U.S. administration there is not much  
likelihood of that. We will have to wait, probably, for a  
change of leadership in the U.S."

"Even though they are called `leftists' that remains  
relative because what is happening is more than a popular  
name given by the rightist party to evoke fear."

"Latin America knows that it cannot survive without the U.S.  
but it is not good for them to live under the U.S. They  
aspire to live `with' the U.S., but as a partner not with  
the U.S. as a master."

"Latin America hopes a hope for ethical equal treatment,  
fraternity and collaboration between nations. And even  
though the U.S. doesn't want it like that, that is the way  
it should be, times change, the pendulum swings back."

Ford